Xbox Ambassadors Celebrate Pride 2023

Community Taxel Jun 1, 2023

Happy Pride month, Xbox Ambassadors! This year we're continuing our proud tradition of highlighting stories, experiences, and game recommendations from Xbox Ambassadors in the LGBTQIA+ community. Now more than ever, it's important to make it clear to all members of the Xbox community that gaming is for everyone. One great way to ensure our community remains safe, welcoming, and inclusive to all is to spotlight and represent individuals who have already found a sense of belonging alongside their fellow Ambassadors.

Check out the spotlights in this blog and stay tuned to the Quests page for more ways that you can show your pride, celebrate the uniqueness of everyone in our community, and experience games + content featuring, curated, and created by members of the LGBTQIA+ community.

Community Spotlights

WRLD ONE | They/Them

What would you like to share about your experience as a member of the Xbox Ambassadors community?

The Xbox Ambassadors community is a fantastic platform that brings gamers together from all over the world. It is a community that is dedicated to promoting positivity, inclusivity, and sharing knowledge about gaming and Xbox. The Xbox Ambassadors program also provides various opportunities for members to learn, grow, and give back to the gaming community. Overall, it is a great community for gamers to connect, learn, and have fun together.

Are there any specific games you'd recommend that other Xbox Ambassadors play as part of our Pride celebration?

I recommend Wild Hearts, Cyberpunk 2077, Forza Horizon 5, 2064: Read Only Memories, Boyfriend Dungeon, The Sims 4, and Coffee Talk (Both episode 1 and 2).

What message would you like to share with other members of the community?

I encourage all members of the community to practice kindness, empathy, and respect towards one another. Let us work together to create a more inclusive and compassionate world for everyone.

NoriYuki Sato | He/Him

What would you like to share about your experience as a member of the Xbox Ambassadors community?

The Ambassador program is truly a wonderful community. Before I signed up 7 years ago, I was having trouble and Xbox Support wasn’t sure what the problem was. I hopped over to the forums and got immediate help from an Ambassador who had a similar issue and was able to resolve it. I didn’t know about the Ambassador program at the time. They gave me details about how Ambassadors help the community and I signed up immediately. I was part of a group called Be A Better Gamer which was designed to help gamers against trolls in online games while coaching people on how to deal with them in the future. Nowadays I find myself helping people as an Ambassador on various platforms including Reddit, where my actions for the community lead to me being a moderator for one of the largest Xbox communities on the site. I also still do a lot of assisting out coaching in games as well.

Are there any specific games you’d recommend that other Xbox Ambassadors play as part of our Pride celebration?

Life is Strange: Before the Storm, LiS 1, or LiS: True Colors

What message would you like to share with other members of the community?

You matter. You are loved. You have a future. <3

SquishyDea | She/They

What would you like to share about your experience as a member of the Xbox Ambassadors community?

It’s been a wonderful experience, I’ve helped people, made new friends, and overall felt like I’ve made a difference.

Are there any specific games you’d recommend that other Xbox Ambassadors play as part of our Pride celebration?

Play the games you like. Sure there are games with gay, trans, and straight icons, but the real game that should be celebrated, is the one you enjoy to play and makes YOU feel welcome.

What message would you like to share with other members of the community?

This community, and Xbox has helped me find my life partner. Without Xbox, the program, and a little game called Ark, I would have never met my beautiful wife. I hope everyone can make friends, enjoy their time, and celebrate what makes them unique. Pride is all about coming together and accepting everyone, and I hope we can all embody that.

Ackee on Walkee | They/Them

What would you like to share about your experience as a member of the Xbox Ambassadors community?

I’m genderfluid (AMAB, and I present male so I don’t have to keep explaining myself to everyone I meet), and I met a really good friend online in The Division 2. We got along really well, similar tastes in games (we later played

other games together), similar senses of humor, etc. We never met in real life or video called or anything, just chatted while gaming. Turns out, “he” was in the process of transitioning, and is now a woman! Both of us being LGBT+ was not something that we discussed as we both are relatively quiet about it. But now one of my best friends is also my LGBT+ buddy, making our friendship that much more meaningful to me.

Are there any specific games you’d recommend that other Xbox Ambassadors play as part of our Pride celebration?

My absolute #1 is Ikenfell! Cyberpunk 2077, the Life is Strange series, and the Mass Effect series all have LGBT+ representation too

What message would you like to share with other members of the community?

Be proud of yourself, and be proud of your gaming

MikiePlays | They/Them

What would you like to share about your experience as a member of the Xbox Ambassadors community?

My experience being an Ambassador has always been so awesome and positive, but even more so now! I recently came out as transfemme (yay!) and the community has been super accepting, welcoming and accommodating to me! It makes me so happy and grateful to be part of such an inclusive and welcoming community like the Xbox Ambassadors community. You all are so awesome <3 Btw, you should totally join us if you haven’t! We have one of the best communities in gaming ever

Are there any specific games you'd recommend that other Xbox Ambassadors play as part of our Pride celebration?

I have quite a few of queer positive games I love and recommend! Games like Ikenfell, DoraKone, Celeste, Apex Legends, Princess Farmer, ValiDate, Arcade Spirits 1&2, the Dragon Age and Mass Effect series, the Life is Strange series and Tell Me Why all have wonderful queer characters and representation! Tell Me Why is especially special to me as a trans person. Love that game!

What message would you like to share with other members of the community?

My message to share with our community is simply this: Love. Love yourself, love others and do your best to share love and kindness in a world that's severely lacking in it. With all the anti-trans and anti-queer hate and bills and legislation happening, it's more important than ever to share love and support and stand with the queer communities. Allyship and friends are so appreciated! Black, Indigenous, People of Color and disabled queer people are especially in need of allies and support. <3

Gratitude

Thank you again to everyone who shared their experiences with us this month, especially those of you who we were able to spotlight! We also want to thank those of you who submitted to our Form and were not featured. While we always receive more submissions than we can spotlight, reading what you take the time to share with us is always a highlight of our year. Remember that while June will end eventually, our Pride in this incredible community never does.

What Now?

Head to the Quests page to learn more about how we celebrate Pride at Xbox and Microsoft.

Check out our evergreen LGBTQIA+ resources in the Xbox Ambassadors Discord by following these steps:

- Head to the Xbox Ambassadors Discord (you can find the invite link on the Dashboard of the Xbox Ambassadors website)
- Complete server onboarding if you haven't already
- Check out the resources linked in channel #lgbtqia_plus_resources